



1963 - 2013

Newsletter of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission

Special Edition - 50th Anniversary

- 1 Messages from the Executive Director & Chair of the Board of Commissioners
- 2 Event Invitations
- 4 Calendar of Events - Spring 2013
Employment Law Seminars (New! Chattanooga & Memphis)
50th Anniversary Commemorative Events
Roundtable Discussions



Executive Director Beverly Watts during recent training for THRC Investigators



Attendees during recent Brownsville Roundtable Discussion in Brownsville, TN



Special Assistant to the Executive Director Susannah Berry with Rep. Sherry Jones at the Women's Economic Summit



2012 Human Rights Day Awardees George Barrett, Rosetta Miller-Perry, Rev. Bill Barnes & Daoud Abudiab (not pictured Cecilia Gomez)



Commissioner Ruby Miller during recent THRC Board of Commissioners Meeting



Title VI Compliance Program Director Tiffany Taylor, Commissioner Patricia Pierce & Deputy Director Sabrina Hooper during YWCA's Academy for Women of Achievement



Message from Chair of the Board of Commissioners, Stacey Garrett



On September 30, 2013, the Tennessee Human Rights Commission will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. To celebrate this important milestone the Commission along with its 50th Anniversary Honorary Advisory Committee are planning commemorative events across the state, culminating with an Anniversary Luncheon in Nashville on October 4, 2013.

Commemorative Receptions are planned in Knoxville (February 5), Nashville (February 28) Chattanooga (March 14), and Memphis (April 11). These receptions will provide attendees the opportunity to learn more about the Commission's history and the larger civil rights narrative. Historical documents, videos and speakers will offer insights into the Commission's rich history. Additionally, local advocates who fought for equality across the state will be honored at these receptions. For more information or to RSVP for these events, please see the Calendar of Events on the last page of this newsletter or call 615-253-1608.

We are looking forward to joining our partners and community members throughout Tennessee to remember our past, reflect on our progress and celebrate our future. We invite you to attend one of our commemorative events in your community and share your civil rights memories from the past fifty years. For more information about our 50th Anniversary, please visit <http://www.tn.gov/humanrights/50thAnniversary.shtml>



Message from THRC Executive Director, Beverly Watts

Announcing half-day Employment Law Seminars in Memphis and Chattanooga

Following the great success of our annual Employment Law Seminar in Nashville, TN, our Board of

Commissioners has initiated an extension of this seminar to the West and East divisions of Tennessee. This year I am proud to announce that we will offer half-day seminars in Chattanooga on March 14, 2013 and in Memphis on April 11, 2013.

Both seminars will have similar agendas, focusing on process and resolution of employment discrimination complaints. The first session of the day will discuss mediating a complaint of employment discrimination. The second session will feature THRC attorneys and provide an explanation of the THRC complaint process and organizational overview. The last session of the day will feature an EEOC local attorney who will provide case updates and review the EEOC's Strategic Enforcement Plan. Continuing education credits for attorneys and HR professionals have been applied for and are pending approval.

If you wish to attend one of these new seminars I encourage you to visit our website www.tn.gov/humanrights for more information or call 615-253-1608. We hope to see you there!



50th Anniversary Commemorative Reception

You are cordially invited to attend a reception commemorating the 50th Anniversary year of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission.

We gather to celebrate our history and to acknowledge those in the Knoxville community that were integral in securing equal rights for citizens of this state and country.

Join us at the Beck Cultural Center as we remember our past, reflect on our last fifty years of progress and celebrate our future.



February 5th, 2013
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Beck Cultural Center
Knoxville, TN

**RSVPs are required for this event. Please
call 615-253-1608, email
Susannah.Berry@tn.gov or visit
<http://50receptionknox.eventbrite.com>**



ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION KNOXVILLE, TN

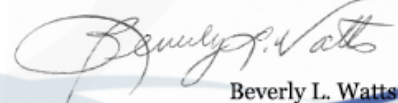
Tuesday, February 5th, 2013
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Beck Cultural Center
1927 Dandridge Avenue - Knoxville, TN 37915

Join the Tennessee Human Rights Commission in Knoxville for a community discussion at the Beck Cultural Center. THRC will provide an overview of our laws, enforcement powers and services. We invite the community to bring current issues facing your community to our attention.

Please RSVP by February 1st for this free community discussion.
Visit <http://knoxvillroundtablediscussionthrc.eventbrite.com/>
or call 615-253-1608

Sincerely,



Beverly L. Watts
Executive Director

The Commission is an independent state agency responsible for enforcing the Tennessee Human Rights Act and the Tennessee Disability Act which prohibit discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodation on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, disability, familial status (housing only) and age (over 40 in employment). The Commission also coordinates the state's compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination by State agencies receiving federal financial assistance.

AN EVENING WITH THE TENNESSEE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

VIEW THE ORIGINAL 13TH AMENDMENT,
A REPLICA OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION AND
HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS FROM THE THRC

Join the Tennessee Human Rights Commission in Nashville for a unique reception at the Tennessee State Museum. Historian Linda Wynn will discuss the greater civil rights narrative, connecting the Emancipation Proclamation to the creation of the THRC. Hear more about the Commission's evolution since created by an Executive Order in 1963 and view historical documents.

Please RSVP by February 22nd for this special evening.
Visit <http://thrcpviewing.eventbrite.com/>
or call 615-253-1608

Thursday, February 28th, 2013
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Tennessee State Museum
505 Deaderick St.
Nashville, TN 37243



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Want to know about the latest programs, events and news from the THRC?
[Click here](#) to join our e-mail list.

THRC Education & Outreach Upcoming Events

February 5, 2013	<p><u><i>Roundtable Discussion:</i></u> 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm</p> <p><u><i>50th Commemorative Reception:</i></u> 6 pm – 7:30 pm</p> <p>Beck Cultural Center, Knoxville, TN</p>
February 28, 2013	<p><u><i>Emancipation Proclamation Viewing & Reception</i></u></p> <p>6:00 pm – 7:30 pm</p> <p>Tennessee State Museum, Nashville, TN</p>
March 14, 2013	<p><u><i>Employment Law Seminar:</i></u> 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm</p> <p>UTC, Fletcher Hall, Chattanooga, TN</p> <p><u><i>50th Commemorative Reception:</i></u> 6 pm – 7:30 pm</p> <p>TBD, Chattanooga, TN</p>
April 11, 2013	<p><i>Employment Law Seminar:</i> 12 pm – 4:30 pm</p> <p>TBD, Memphis, TN</p> <p><u><i>50th Commemorative Reception:</i></u> 6 pm – 7:30 pm</p> <p>TBD, Memphis, TN</p>
April 12, 2013	<p><i>West TN Fair Housing Conference</i></p> <p>University of Memphis Law School, Memphis, TN</p>
October 4, 2013	<p><i>50th Anniversary Luncheon</i></p> <p>Nashville Airport Marriott, Nashville, TN</p>